

Message Text

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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00024 091019Z

15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TAR-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01

CIEP-01 STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01

COA-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 DLOS-03 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 INT-05

/096 W

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R 081730Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5100

INFO CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USNATO 1082

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, MARR, IC, GW, US

SUBJECT: FOREIGN RELATIONS CHAIRMAN SUGGESTS LINK BETWEEN IDF
AND FRG FISHERIES DIPUTE

REF: REYKJAVIK 1565

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. IN TIMINN EDITORIAL JANUARY 8, ALTHING FOREIGN

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RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND PROGRESSIVE PARTY

FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPECIALIST THORARINN THORARINSSON MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF ENDING IDF'S DUTY-FREE PRIVILEGES AS RETALIATION FOR WEST GERMAN BAN ON ICELANDIC FISH IMPORTS STEMMING FROM ICELAND-FRG FISHERIES DISPUTE. THORARINSSON DID NOT ADVOCATE PROPOSAL, BUT SIMPLY CITED IT, TOGETHER WITH ALTHING MEASURE INTRODUCED LAST SESSION CALLING FOR SPECIAL TARIFF ON FRG IMPORTS, AS POSSIBLE RETALIATORY MOVE.

2. AS NOTED BY THORARINSSON IN EDITORIAL, SUGGESTION WAS FIRST MADE LAST FALL (REFTEL) BY INDEPENDENCE PARTY MP ODDUR OLAFSSON AS POSSIBLE WAY OF COUNTERING FRG'S VETO IF IMPLEMENTATION OF ICELAND-EEC TARIFF REDUCTION SCHEDULE BECAUSE OF FISHERIES DISPUTE. REASONING WAS THAT KEFLAVIK, AS NATO BASE, HELPED SAFEGUARD WEST GERMANY AND ACTION AGAINST BASE WOULD PROBABLY HAVE IMPACT ON FRG. ADDITIONALLY, REVENUE RESULTING FROM REMOVAL OF DUTY-FREE STATUS COULD BE APPLIED TO LOSSES SUFFERED BY ABSENCE OF EEC TARIFF REDUCTION. END UNCLASSIFIED

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COMMENT: SIGNIFICANCE OF EDITORIAL IS THAT FOR FIRST TIME LEADER OF THORARINSSON'S STANDING IN PP AND IN ALTHING HINTS AT A TIE-IN BETWEEN NATO AND FRG FISHERIES DISPUTE. ABOUT A MONTH AGO PP CHAIRMAN AND FORMER PRIME MINISTER OLAFUR JOHANNESSEN, WHO CURRENTLY IS COMMERCE MINISTER, EXPRESSED TO AMBASSADOR HIS "GROWING DISENCHANTMENT" WITH NATO BECAUSE OF FRG FISHERIES DISPUTE. WHEN HE WAS PRIME MIN DURING FISHERIES DISPUTE WITH UK HE RESISTED SUCH LINKAGE WITHIN HIS PARTY.
IRVING

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